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NEWS RELEASE

For Media Release November 6, 2003

Comments Wanted On Proposal To Amend Hawai'i Rules of Penal Procedure

The Supreme Court of Hawai'i seeks public comment about the Penal Procedure and Circuit Court Criminal Rules Committee's proposal to amend Rule 7(f) of the Hawai'i Rules of Penal Procedure (HRPP).

The amended rule would permit, in appropriate cases, a criminal complaint to be amended to include additional offenses. (Words suggested for deletion are bracketed.)

(f) *Amendment.* The court may permit a charge other than an indictment to be amended at any time before verdict or finding [if no additional or different offense is charged and] if substantial rights of the defendant are not prejudiced.

Comments about the proposal to amend HRPP Rule 7(f) should be submitted in writing **no later than January 28, 2004** to the Judiciary Public Affairs Office, 417 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96813; by facsimile to (808) 539-4801; or via the Judiciary website at www.courts.state.hi.us.

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